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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4963

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 002087

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FOR DS A/S GRIFFIN AND S/CT COORDINATOR CRUMPTON FROM
AMBASSADOR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/18/2016

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [CE](#)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT RAJAPAKSE REQUESTS DS ADVICE ON HIS
SECURITY

REF: COLOMBO 2010

Classified By: Ambassador Robert O. Blake, Jr. for reasons
1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (C) Defense Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapakse, brother of
President Mahinda Rajapakse, contacted me to ask if the
United States could advise the President and his security
detail how they might improve all aspects of his security.
The Secretary said the President had been impressed with the
security provided to him during his recent visit to UNGA and
thought his own security detail could benefit from the advice
and experience of Diplomatic Security.

Comment

12. (C) If there is scope for DS to undertake a consultation
visit to assess the strengths, weaknesses and gaps of
President Rajapakse's security detail, the Embassy's RSO Pitt
Orr and I recommend that DS and S/CT respond favorably to
this request. In the past year the Liberation Tamil Tigers
of Eelam (LTTE) have conducted a series of assassinations and
attempted assassinations of senior Government of Sri Lanka
Officials and other high value targets including the Chief of
Staff of the Army, the third in command of the Army and, on
December 1, 2006, Secretary of Defense Rajapaske (ref).
These attacks have revived a traditional LTTE tactic of
attacking senior leadership that resulted in the death of
President Premadasa in 1993 and a narrow escape for President
Bandaranaike in 1999. Thank you for your consideration.
Regards,
BLAKE